

AndoverToday

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FALL RECYCLING DAY/SEPTEMBER 12TH

9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

ANDOVER PUBLIC WORKS, 1785 CROSSTOWN BLVD. NW

Besides our regular recyclables we will be accepting:

Cash or make checks to: City of Andover

APPLIANCES: Most - \$5 each; Camper refrigerators - \$75;
Gas/Ammonia (Servel) refrigerators - \$150.

CARPETING: \$10 for a small pickup load.

FLUORESCENT LAMPS: First 5 free per household for Andover residents. Additional bulbs - 50¢-4';
75¢-8"; more for other sizes.

MATTRESSES & box springs: Dry and not moldy. \$13 each.

Cash or make checks to: Ecycling

ELECTRONICS: The fee is according to size.

Cash or make checks to: First State Tire

TIRES: Passenger, ATV & motorcycle (w/wo rims) - \$1; light truck
tires - \$2.50; Semi-Truck tires - \$6 (off rim); \$7 (on rim);
Tractor tires 4/6/8 ply - \$25; on rims - \$30.

Materials for no fee –

BATTERIES: Lead acid car, boat and motorcycle. The Knights of
Columbus collect these batteries.

BICYCLES: Any condition. They are repaired and given away for
transportation. Parts that can't be used, may be sold to
offset costs.

BOOKS, CD's, DVD's: Put into drop box.

DOCUMENT SHREDDING: In front of Public Works garage.

RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

SCRAP METAL: All metals, but materials must be free from plastic,
rubber, glass, concrete, tar, glue, wood and paper.

USEABLE HOUSEHOLD ITEMS: *** No junk or items in need of
repair.

USED EYE GLASSES: The Andover Lions collect used eyeglasses.
This is an ongoing project.

We can NOT accept upholstered furniture.

Call (763) 767-5114 with Recycling questions.

Do not bring Household Hazardous Waste

Anoka County HHW Facility in Blaine is open from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
(Call Anoka Co. (763) 323-5730 about HHW site)

NO GARBAGE ACCEPTED

"20TH ANNIVERSARY ANDOVER FAMILY FUN FEST A SUCCESS!"

Lauren Bertilson, AFFF Committee Member

This year's 20th Anniversary Andover Family Fun Fest was a huge success, and on behalf of the AFFF Committee, we're so thrilled with the crowds who came out to enjoy all the weekend had to offer! From the community booths and Magic Bounce Fun Zone to the food booths and Bingo, people were lining up, enjoying both the weather and being together as a community. Please mark your calendars for July 8 & 9, 2016 for another fantastic weekend at the 2016 AFFF!

This large of an event does not happen without an extensive group of volunteers. Thank you to the volunteers who make each aspect of the festival possible. Thank you also to our generous local businesses for donating so many prizes for Bingo and the Silent Auction, all of our great entertainers, participants in the Fun Run, Craft & Gift Show vendors, and everyone else who makes this such a great event for kids and adults alike. The entertainers were even complimenting the enjoyable audiences, so thank YOU for being such a wonderful community.

A big congratulations to the Parade and Classic Car Show winners:

Classic Car Show Winners

- 1st Place – 1934 Ford – Brandon Schroeder
- 2nd Place – 1957 Chevy Convertible – Paul Martin
- 3rd Place – 2013 Corvette Grand Sport – Brenda Dukowitz

Parade Winners

- Best Music – Tom's Mechanical Music (Calliope)
- Best Decorated – Advanced Eyecare
- Most Unique – Cub Scout Pack 414

Make sure to like us on Facebook (Andover Family Fun Fest) to see some great photos of this year's event and be in the loop for next year's AFFF. Looking forward to seeing you there!



SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, September 26, 2015 @ 8 am



WALK FOR HOPE
ALEXANDRA HOUSE 2015

5K Fun Run • 2-Mile Walk

Bunker Hills Regional Park • Pionia Pavilion #3

MUSIC • HEALTH SCREENINGS • KID'S ACTIVITIES • RESOURCE FAIR

ANDOVER CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR

Julie Trude.....(763) 862-2499
cm.trude@andovermn.gov

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Sheri Bukkila.....(763) 757-4808
cm.bukkila@andovermn.gov
Jim Goodrich.....(763) 753-8648
cm.goodrich@andovermn.gov
Valerie Holthus.....(763) 753-3755
cm.holthus@andovermn.gov
Mike Knight.....(763) 421-9247
cm.knight@andovermn.gov

CITY HALL.....(763) 755-5100

Fax Number.....(763) 755-8923
1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW

PUBLIC WORKS

Fax Number.....(763) 767-5190
1785 Crosstown Boulevard NW
E-Mail: citygov@andovermn.gov
Website: www.andovermn.gov
Facebook: www.facebook.com

COUNTY

Anoka County Attorney
Tony Palumbo.....(763) 323-5550
Anoka County Sheriff
James Stuart.....(763) 323-5000



Like us on
Facebook

CITY OFFICES WILL
BE CLOSED MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 7th IN
OBSERVANCE OF

Labor Day

ANDOVER'S NEW BUSINESS

Modern Chic
13735 Round Lake Blvd. NW, #101
(763) 270-5844
www.modernchiconline.com



MAYOR'S REPORT

Julie Trude

Planning for Andover's Future

I am enjoying being your Mayor! Planning for a positive future is important to me. In February, we held an Economic Development

Planning Session. Our goals include increasing and improving our commercial tax base, recruiting more restaurants, and encouraging redevelopment at sites such as the three closed gas stations. One cleaned-up site, on Bunker Lake Blvd. at Crosstown Drive, is City-owned and may host a new office building.

Another City redevelopment site, next to the bank on Jay Street, was held for many years for a restaurant. I happily greeted the Leons as they came to the EDA to purchase this land for an Acapulco restaurant! We look forward to a spring opening. The bank will also open after remodeling to accommodate Premier Bank and a chiropractor. Other vacant gas station sites are being marketed by the private sector with several inquiries to City staff about their potential.

This spring, the City Council updated our strategic plan, (posted on our website). Working with City Administrator Jim Dickinson, Councilmembers and department heads evaluated our City's challenges and strengths, and updated long-term and short-term goals. Last year's resident survey provided necessary community input.

Andover is Growing

It is an exciting time to be involved in City leadership as we see new neighborhoods built and others regain stability. As I campaigned last fall and visited with families at FunFest and Night to Unite, it was fun to hear stories about a new generation of Andover homeowners. Some of them attended school or played sports with my three children while growing up here and now they own their own home. After all, we are only a City of 41 years!

I also have greeted newcomers who chose Andover to be near grandchildren or for retirement because of the beautiful environment. Aware of this trend, Arbor Oaks will construct a senior (over age 50) apartment building in Grey Oaks with underground parking and indoor athletic club amenities. We have a desirable community with growing home values. These are reasons that the online financial blog, nerdwallet.com ranked Andover among the top 20 Minnesota small cities and

32 out of 1,000 top US small cities, for young families. Check it out.

Last Open Space Purchase

What a privilege for Andover to receive the benefit of a long-term area resident Alfred Dalske's desire to help preserve his scenic, wooded property for many future generations to enjoy! With his children's support, Mr. Dalske agreed to sell 40 acres in northeastern Andover near 180th Avenue for "whatever the City has left" in the fund to buy land for preservation. For \$80,000 Alfred Dalske sold us 40 acres of high quality, wooded property that is abundant with wildlife. Thank you from all of us for leaving such a remarkable legacy! This public open space will be known as Dalske's Woodlands.

Pollinator-Friendly Garden Tour

We enjoyed favorable press in the Star Tribune with the first Pollinator-Friendly Garden Tour. Since Andover become a Bee Safe Community, an active group of volunteers have launched a public information campaign to inform us of plants, lawn and garden practices that attract and help bees and butterflies thrive. You will notice their booth at our weekly Farmer's Market, Tuesdays after 2:00 p.m., Grace Lutheran parking lot. I hope there will be another Garden Tour in 2016.

Trails

Our survey showed a strong support for more trails. I hear residents emphasize they like to walk and bike for health and to access schools, parks, the community center and shopping. Although we add trails adjacent to major corridors during reconstruction, such as Bunker Lake Blvd. and Hanson Blvd., some areas will not see construction for decades. As we discuss the 2016 budget, your priorities and concerns are important to consider. I hope you will keep communicating with the council about your priorities. One positive outcome of these discussions is Anoka-Hennepin Superintendent David Law supported school district staff working with our engineering staff to create plans that would qualify Andover for grants related to trails near schools.

Hanson Blvd. Bottleneck

Finally, great news about the elimination of the bottleneck on Hanson Blvd. north of Bunker Lake Blvd. A federal safety grant will help Anoka County reconstruct Hanson Blvd. to 4-lanes from Bunker Lake Blvd. to Crosstown Blvd. in 2019.

ANOKA COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY

3230 101st Avenue NE, Blaine

April-October; Monday, Friday & Saturday – 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Wednesday 2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

The permanent, year-round facility in Blaine offers convenient opportunities for residents to drop off their household hazardous waste. There is no charge to use the site. Bring identification, such as a driver's license, as proof of residency. Businesses, schools and other organizations may not use the facility.

Anoka County is also holding several household hazardous waste collection events at the Anoka County Fairgrounds. For information on household hazardous waste and the events, visit AnokaCounty.us/recycle or call (763) 323-5730.

WETLAND LAW MADE CLEARER

Digging ponds, filling in low areas and removing cattails. All are regulated under complex wetland laws leaving landowners wondering, "can I do that on my property?" A new web tool is available to provide direct answers in one place.

With support from the Lower Rum River Watershed Management, the Anoka Conservation District has added a new "wetlands" section to their website. The website includes a summary of wetland rules, answers to frequently asked questions, a map with permitting contact information and a way to request advice without going through a permitting process.

Three sets of wetland law apply in Minnesota. First is the MN Wetland Conservation Act which applies to all wetlands. Second are DNR rules which apply only to larger, generally open water, "public waters." Third is the Army Corps of Engineers rules which apply to "navigable waters of the US" which can include smaller wetlands that seem "un-navigable" in common language. All apply regardless of whether the property is private or public.

Go to www.AnokaSWCD.org and click the "Wetlands" tab before beginning a project in or near low areas. And remember...even an area that is dry today, or even most of the time, may legally be a wetland.

A message from the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization www.LRRWMO.org

NEWS FROM THE BUILDING INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

To save you money, time and continuously improve access to City services, the Andover Building Inspections Department is now providing fixed-fee permits as online / internet transactions. Permits presently available online include:

- Electrical Permits - Multifamily / Commercial / Industrial & Institutional (License Required)
- Electrical Permits - Single Family Residential
- Existing Residential Heating / Air Conditioning Replacement Permit
- Existing Residential Water Heater or Water Softener Replacement Permit
- Landscape Irrigation Plumbing Permit
- New or Replacement Residential Garage Furnace / Unit Heater Permit
- New or Replacement Residential Gas Fireplace Permit
- New Single Family Residential Mechanical Combination HVAC Permit
- New Single Family Residential Plumbing Permit
- On-Site Sewage Treatment System Pumping Permit (License Required)
- One & Two Family Residential Roofing Permit
- One & Two Family Residential Siding Permit
- Single Family Residential Basement Finishing Permit

To apply for and pay for permits online, go to www.andovermn.gov, go to YOUR GOVERNMENT then to Departments, click on Building Inspection, click the menu for Permit/License Applications and PERMITS ONLINE. Then click the tab for ONLINE FIXED-FEE PERMITS.

Or

Enter the following link in your browser: www.andovermn.gov/138/Permit-License-Applications-and-PERMITS-

Online permits have been popular, more than 90 have been issued since the beginning of the year. We've tried to make online permitting easy and convenient. As you use the City website and purchase permits online, we welcome your suggestions for improvement. Please let us know how we are doing.

**SCHOOL STARTS SOON
WATCH FOR CHILDREN WALKING
AND AT BUS STOPS!**



ANDOVER YMCA GOLF TOURNAMENT



**Majestic Oaks Golf Club - September 15th
Proceeds Benefit the Annual Support
Campaign**

Each day we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive at the Y. Each year the Andover Y raises funds through our Annual Support Campaign. The money raised stays right here in the communities we serve and provides scholarships so that no one is turned away from membership, swimming lessons, camps or programs due to financial need.

\$340 per foursome or \$85 per golfer until August 17th.
\$400 per foursome or \$100 per golfer after August 17th.
Includes 18 hole green fees, golf cart, use of driving range, and dinner.
\$30 dinner only.

Event Schedule

11:30 A.M., registration
11:30 - 1:00 P.M., practice greens and driving range
12:00 - 12:30 P.M., putting contests

Lunch will be available for purchase.

1:00 P.M., shotgun start
5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M., cocktail reception
6:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M., dinner and awards
6:30 P.M., silent auction closes

<http://give.ymcatwincities.org/AndoverGolf>

**GOPHER STATE
ONE CALL
CALL BEFORE YOU DIG**

(651) 454-0002-Metro
www.gopherstateonecall.org

HOMESTEAD FILING

New homeowners are reminded that December 15, 2015 is the deadline to file for Homestead Classification. You may file at City Hall or at the Anoka County Government Center. A copy of your deed is needed to file. If you have any questions, contact Michelle at (763) 755-5100.

ANDOVER

Community Center

15200 Hanson Blvd. NW

Andover, MN 55304

Phone: (763) 767-5100 • Fax: (763) 755-2129

Website: www.andovermn.gov/acc

Email: accinfo@andovermn.gov



ANDOVER COMMUNITY CENTER'S FACEBOOK PAGE

The Andover Community Center facebook page will keep you up to date with events, programs, lessons, community events and more!



ICE SKATING PROGRAMS

INTRODUCTION TO ICE - This 3 week program is designed to introduce the sport of ice skating to students who have no skating experience and are between the ages of 3 - 6. Each class is 30 minutes in length and features age appropriate, off and on-ice activities including games and music. At the end of this 3-week session, students will be given a "Good Job" award with instructor's evaluation notes. Classes cost \$30, per 3 week session. Upcoming sessions will be held Saturday mornings, October 3, 10, 24 and November 7, 14 & 21.

ICE SKATING LESSONS - The Andover Skate School offers ice skating lesson programs for skaters, age 3 - adult. Classes include a 30 minute lesson and 30 minute on-ice practice time. The first week of class, coaches will teach safety precautions, introduce skills and ensure students are in the correct class. Students will also receive a complimentary \$10 punch card to use towards skate rental, skate sharpening and/or future open skate sessions. Students will be evaluated during the last two days of class and achievement cards and certificates will be awarded. Students must pass all skills to advance to the next level. Fall program will be held Saturday mornings, October 3, 10, 24, 31, November 7, 14 & 21 (7 sessions \$79).

INDOOR YOUTH SOCCER PROGRAM



The Andover Community Center will be offering a youth indoor soccer program for boys and girls ages 4 - 9. This program will focus on individual skill development and having fun! Teams will practice skills for the first 30 minutes then play a game against another team for the remaining 30

minutes of the program. This program is a great start for beginners and fun for those who have already played organized soccer. Soccer program will be held at the Andover Community Center, Saturday mornings October 10th - November 21st (6 weeks), \$69 per player (no program October 17th MEA). All players will receive a team t-shirt and award. Teams will be organized into age appropriate levels.

OPEN ADULT HOCKEY

Drop-in, adult hockey is held most Mondays & Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. No need to pre-register, attend when you can. Admission is \$5 per skater, goalies skate free. For specific dates and times, check the Ice Arena Activity Calendar on the website at www.andovermn.gov/acc

PICKLEBALL

Pickleball is a combination of tennis, badminton, ping pong and racquetball - easy to learn, great exercise and lots of fun for all ages. Admission is \$4 or purchase a punch card (\$30 value) for \$25. Sign in and pay admissions at the information desk next to the ice arena. Bring your own paddle or we do have a few on-hand you may borrow. Dates/times are published on the Andover Community Center Field House (gym) Schedule. Schedules are located in lobby racks and at www.andovermn.gov/acc



ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

The Andover YMCA Community Center offers several adult opportunities, including monthly pot-lucks, book club, indoor walking, educational seminars and classes, bingo and fitness opportunities. Adult activity calendars are available in lobby racks or on our website at www.andovermn.gov/acc. Contact Jodi at the YMCA (763) 230-6552. Most activities are available to everyone, you do not need to be a member of the YMCA.

INDOOR WALKING

Beginning September 8th, Fall indoor walking will be offered Monday



- Friday, 5:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. All walkers sign-in at the YMCA front desk and walk around the perimeter of the community center field house (10 laps, equals one (1) mile). Daily admission fees apply. Walkers must register at the Andover YMCA front desk. If you have any additional questions, please contact the Andover YMCA at (763) 230-9622 or Andover Community Center (763) 767-5100.

TOT-TIME OPEN GYM



Beginning October 6th Tot-Time Open Gym will be offered most Mondays & Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. - Noon in the Andover Community Center Field House. Parents/caregivers and kids, infant - K, will meet new friends and get to socialize and play in a non-

structured, super fun, environment! There are many items available for children to play with and lots of room for them to run. Daily admission fees apply. No need to pre-register. Refer to the Tot-Time schedule for specific meeting dates. Tot-Time will not be offered days when students in District #11 are not in session. Watch our website for more details on Bounce House Days and Story Time during the 2015/2016 season.

LOCK-IN'S, BUSINESS MEETINGS, FIELD TRIPS, BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Don't forget about the Andover YMCA Community Center when organizing your 2015-2016 student field trips or events. Party/meeting room rentals, ice skating, gym activities available! Contact us at (763) 767-5100 for more information.

OPEN GYM AND OPEN SKATE

All open gym and open skate times are included on our monthly schedules. All schedules are available in the community center lobby and on the web at www.andovermn.gov/acc. As a reminder you do not need to be a member of the YMCA to utilize the community center ice arena or field house. Daily admission fees apply.

CONSIGNMENT SALES EVENT

Just Between Friends, a children's and maternity consignment sales event will take place in October at the Andover Community Center Field House. Consign your children's clothes and toys and you make money! Volunteers helping with the event will have an opportunity to shop early to receive the best deals. For more information visit www.blaine.jbfsale.com.



SHERIFF'S OFFICE OPEN HOUSE SEPTEMBER 15TH FROM 4:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.

Sheriff James Stuart invites you to attend the open house at the Anoka County Sheriff's Office and Regional Forensic Laboratory on Tuesday, September 15th, from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

In addition, the open house will feature:

- Tours of the Sheriff's Office and Forensic Laboratories
- Displays of Sheriff's Office vehicles and Specialty units: SWAT Team, Dive Team, Crime Scene Unit
- Reserve/Explorer Units and Chaplain Program
- Free fingerprinting of children
- Many public safety partners

"We hope you can join us as we work together to develop positive changes in our communities." – Sheriff James Stuart

Reminder: Use this opportunity to drop off your unused prescription drugs.

PARK PLACE

Todd J. Haas, Assistant Public Works Director



With fall right around the corner there are still a lot of opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors that Minnesota has to offer, including opportunities right here in Andover. With cooler temperatures coming in September and October, it is certainly a good time to get outdoors and utilize the parks and trail system that is available to the public.

One of those parks currently available for residents to enjoy and could include some additional amenities at some point in the future is Kelsey Round Lake Park which is located on the west side of Round Lake. There are already some trails within the park but there is potential to also include additional trails. That is where, as a resident, you come into play.

to the park over the next 20 years or more. The last Master Plan for the park was completed in 1992. Having a new comprehensive plan will be useful to strategize and budget for improvements, as well as identify projects which may be funded through grants or other sources.

We need your opinions and suggestions. What ideas do you have for this nature park? Are there things you like or dislike about the park? What could be improved to better serve the needs of the community? If you would like to have a voice in what improvements should be considered, please go to the following website and provide your input by Friday, September 18, 2015:

<https://mysidewalk.com/organizations/289876/kelsey-round-lake-park>

The Andover Park & Recreation Commission will also be conducting public meetings throughout the process to get feedback from residents. For more information, please contact Todd Haas, Assistant Public Works Director at (763) 767-5131.

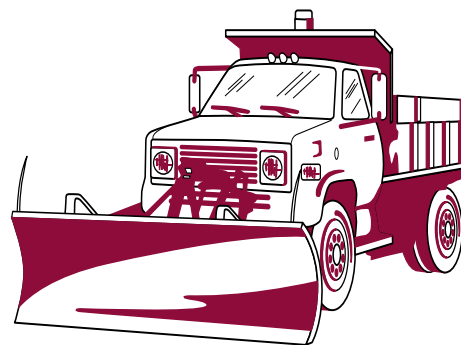
Planning has begun on developing a new Master Plan for Kelsey Round Lake Nature Park. The City has selected WSB and Associates to produce the new plan, which will guide improvements

STAKE YOUR CURB FOR SNOWPLOWING

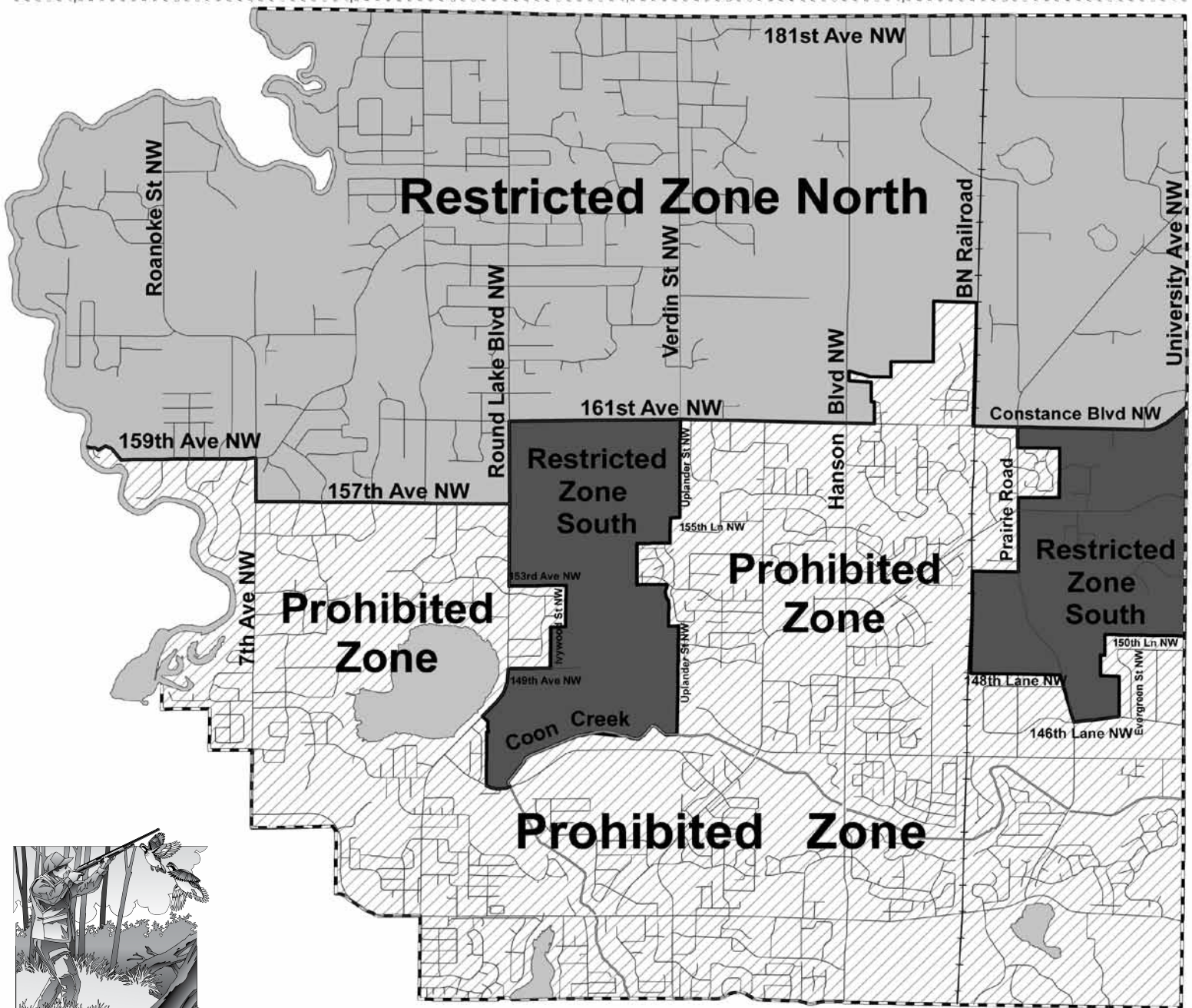
When streets are covered with snow, it can be difficult for snowplow operators to determine the edge of the road, especially curbs. Staking the curb with wood laths enables the operator to locate the edge of the road during the first or second snowfall. Stakes are intended to be used as a guide for the snowplow operator, not as a fence protector along your property.

When staking the curb, DO NOT use steel posts. Use four (4) foot wood laths with tops painted four (4) inches down with orange paint. Place laths no more than six (6) inches behind the curb or road surface

and approximately 25' apart. Wood laths are used since any items placed in the street right-of-way must be a break away design so as not to cause injury to others. The City is NOT responsible for damage to sod on the boulevard or irrigation systems in the right-of-way. This is the responsibility of the property owner. Stakes can be picked up at City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday during the month of October. Curb stakes will not be available after November 13th.



WEAPONS/HUNTING REQUIREMENTS



With hunting season approaching, the City wants to remind residents of the restrictions regarding the discharge of firearms and bows in Andover. The information below is a summary of City Code 5-4 Weapons. For complete regulations please refer to the City Code. Copies are available at City Hall, via email, and on the City's website at www.andovermn.gov. The map indicates the various zones within the City.

Prohibited Zone ○

The discharge of firearms and bows is prohibited.

Restricted Zone North ●

To discharge a firearm, a minimum of ten (10) acres is required. To discharge a bow, a minimum of two and one-half (2.5) acres is required. A Deer Hunting Permit is not required for this zone regardless of weapon.

Restricted Zone South ●

Early Goose and Regular Waterfowl Season: To discharge a firearm, a minimum of ten (10) acres is required. Refer to the MN DNR for specific dates and regulations. No permit is required for goose/waterfowl hunting.

Deer Hunting – Bow:

To discharge a bow, a minimum of two and one-half (2.5) acres is required. Bow hunting does not require a Deer Hunting Permit.

Deer Hunting - Firearm:

To discharge a firearm (shotgun only), a minimum of forty (40) acres is required as well as a city-issued Deer Hunting Permit. A permit is required for each hunter and all rules/regulations established by the MN DNR apply. No discharge shall occur

within one-quarter mile of any urban development, park, or institutional use.

Deer Hunting Permit:

In order to receive a Deer Hunting Permit, an individual must apply for and be granted said permit thirty (30) days prior to the opening day of the season.

The applicant must be the land owner or the immediate family member and have written permission from at least fifty (50) percent of adjacent landowners.

If you are applying for a Deer Hunting Permit or have any additional questions, please contact Brett Angell @ (763) 767-5142 or b.angell@andovermn.gov.

OPEN TO BUSINESS PROGRAM

Looking for a trusted advisor for your business? Maybe you've wanted to secure financing to start or expand your business? If so, a new program offered by Anoka County may be just what you're looking for.

Thanks to a partnership between Anoka County and the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD), business owners or those looking to start a business can access a new program called Open to Business.

Free Technical Assistance

Open to Business will provide prospective and existing entrepreneurs in Andover with free one-on-one counseling with a business advisor. The program provides assistance in the following areas:

- Financial Management
- Business Plan Assistance
- Marketing Assistance
- Business Regulations
- Loan Packaging
- Real Estate Analysis
- Strategic Planning
- Professional Referrals

Small Business Loan Program

Open to Business advisors can also assist entrepreneurs to identify borrowing needs and accessing financing options. Advisors work with clients to help them find the financing that best meets their own unique needs. MCCD also provides direct financing and loans in partnership with banks and nonprofit lenders. Funds can be used for inventory, working capital, asset and equipment purchases, real estate acquisition and start-up costs.

How It Works

Business Advisor Kathleen DuChene is available for setting up a one-on-one meeting at either the Anoka County Government Center or other preferred location. Kathleen is also available at the Andover City Hall on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information contact Kathleen at (763) 438-7315 or by email at kduchene@mccdmn.org. For general information, visit the Open to Business Website at www.opentobusinessmn.org.



LIBRARY FOCUS: ONLINE CALENDAR OF FREE CLASSES AND EVENTS

Did you know Anoka County Library lists its many free classes and events on an easy-to-use calendar at anokacountylibrary.org? Simply hover there over the "Events & Classes" button, near the top of the page and click on "Calendar" to view this wide range of activities for people of every age—from babies to seniors and everything in-between. Clicking on listed items also offers added information about them and online registration to attend.

What kind of free classes and events might the library offer? For children, we have story times (baby, toddler and family), as well as activities such as art, Minecraft

gaming, reading to a dog or rabbit and story walks. For young adults, there are activities like technology and art programs with teens of the library's "Teen Action Board," including LEGO Mindstorms. And for adults, there are computer and job search classes (e.g., eBooks, Microsoft Word and Excel, one-on-one technology help and Senior Surf), SCORE small business counseling, writing workshops and more. One adult highlight will be mystery writer Chuck Logan speaking at Rum River Library, on Tuesday, October 27th at 7:00 p.m. For additional information, please contact Rum River Library, 4201 6th Ave., Anoka, (763) 576-4695.

ACCAP CHORES & MORE

One stop shopping for minor home repairs, housekeeping and seasonal chores for people 60 +. We utilize independent contractors and when available volunteer groups. Give a call for more details. New phone number and address, (763) 783-4767, 1201 89th Ave. N.E. Suite 345, Blaine, MN 55434.



WATER EDUCATION GRANT MONEY AVAILABLE

The Coon Creek Watershed District has some funding still available in its 2015 grant cycle for water resource education projects or programs that help fulfill our Mission and Comprehensive Plan on protecting and preserving our local water resources. Most grants are around \$500. This is a reimbursement grant for supplies or program costs. Eligible applicants include non-profit groups, K-12 educators, businesses, cities and agencies that are within our boundary. Past grants have included workshops such as training on Aquatic Invasive Species herbicide use, supplies for experiential and educational activities about water quality issues, and water quality testing supplies.

For more information, go to our website for our guidance and application or call Dawn, Information & Education Coordinator at Coon Creek Watershed District: (763) 755-0975.

CLEAN WATER TIP #6 FALL LAWN CARE

Make your lawn healthier while helping keep pollutants out of Coon Creek.

1. Mulch leaves and grass with your mower to fertilize the soil and help keep them off the streets...and phosphorus out of water.
2. Aerate your lawn early in September. Use a core aerator, available for rent at a hardware or home & garden stores. Water can then reach the roots more easily.
3. Best to Test - to find out if you need to fertilize. The UMN will test your sample for \$17. Info on the web at: soiltest.cfans.umn.edu
4. If you fertilize, wait until after aeration. Then fertilizer can absorb into the soil to be used by the roots.

Please do your part, it all adds up.

For more information, contact Dawn at Coon Creek Watershed District (763) 755-0975 or email: info@cooncreekwd.org.



1685 Crosstown Blvd. N.W.
Andover, MN 55304

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 26
Anoka, MN

ECRWSS
RESIDENT
Andover, MN 55304

POSTMASTER: TIME SENSITIVE MAIL



DATED MATERIAL

LEGISLATION PASSED REQUIRING VEGETATED BUFFERS TO PROTECT MINNESOTA WATERS

In June of this year, Governor Dayton signed into law a new buffer initiative aimed at enhancing protection of Minnesota's waters. The buffer initiative is intended to help protect the state's water resources from erosion and runoff pollution by establishing roughly 110,000 acres of buffer along waterways throughout the state.

The new law generated a significant amount of interest, and landowners likely have many questions about how it will impact their property. "Before people get too worked up, however, they should understand that the new law doesn't apply to every ditch, pond and wetland in the state" said Chris Lord, Anoka Conservation District Manager. Until the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources finalizes buffer protection maps that identify exactly which lakes, streams, ditches and other water bodies are impacted by this law, all we can do is speculate on how specific properties will be impacted. Completion of those maps is expected by July 2016. Lord cautioned that in the

meantime, landowners should try not to over react.

Ideally buffers would support a diversity of native grasses, sedges and wildflowers to maximize their value to wildlife and pollinators, while providing water quality benefits, and there are some programs that may help landowners achieve that goal. Under this law, however, 'buffers' are defined as perennial vegetation excluding noxious and invasive plants. This means that most areas like lawns, pasture and hay land qualify as buffers. "From a practical standpoint, this law is about not allowing bare dirt up to the water's edge" Lord said. "Most reasonable people can agree that plowing up soil right to the water's edge and leaving it bare for any amount of time should be avoided in order to protect our public water resources" Lord continued.

Landowners may install buffers on their own at any time, or can wait until DNR has completed the maps in 2016. The new law

specifies November 2017 as the deadline for establishment of 50-foot wide buffers on public waters, and November 2018 for 16.5-foot wide buffers on public drainage systems. The Anoka Conservation District staff will be available to assist landowners during this transition.

For more information about the Governor's buffer law, please visit: <http://bwsr.state.mn.us/buffers/>.

For more information about Anoka Conservation District, please visit the website at: www.AnokaSWCD.org.

